Clearance to Gas Based Power Projects of M.P.

461. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any gas based power project proposed to be fed from the HBJ-pipeline passing through Madhya Pradesh has since been cleared by the Central Government;

(b) what are the details of such power projects which are pending with Government and the ones which have since been cleared by Government and whether they have already received the Environmental clearance; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the delay in their clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) No proposal for setting up of a gas based power project envisaging utilisation of gas from HBJ pipeline in the State of Madhya Pradesh has been given clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

In October 1988, the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB) had submitted proposals for four gas-based power projects at Rajgarh, Jhabua, Guna and Gwalior, each comprising of 450 MW (3×100 MW GT+1×150 MW ST) envisaging utilisation of gas from HBJ pipeline. The Ministry of Environment & Forests had given its 'in principle' clearance in respect of these schemes. The essential inputs like availability of water and gas could not be tied up for these schemes. These schemes are not being pursued in CEA and MPEB were informed of it accordingly in November, 1989. Subsequently, a proposal for installation of Gwalior Combined Cycle gas based power project—817 MW (4×131.3 MW GT+2×146 MW ST)—envisaging utilisation of gas from HBJ pipeline was received in the CEA from the MPEB in August, 1990. The scheme has not been cleared by the Ministry of Environment & Forests from environmental angle. Essential inputs—fuel linkage, water availability associated transmission system, compliance of Section 29 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948—and clearance of the State authorities from environmental angle have not been tied up. The scheme is not in a state of readiness for techno-economic appraisal by CEA. It could be accorded techno-economic clearance after all the essential inputs/clearances have been tied up.

Development of Micro Hydro-Electric Projects

462. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the micro hydroelectric project located on the Western Yamuna Canal near Sonepat is unique in itself;

(b) whether this process of harnessing low heat hydronergy was initiated here as a national demonstration project; and

(c) whether Government have schemes for developing such micro hydroelectric units at different places in the conutry; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and the total additional power generation capacity proposed to be set up by way of such low-head power projects?